

Appl. No. : 10/020,853
Filed : December 11, 2001

REMARKS

In response to the Final Office Action mailed March 29, 2006, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the above-captioned patent application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following comments. As a result of the amendments listed above, Claims 1-17, 27-39, 43-69 and 94 remain pending. Claims 70-89, 91-93 and 95 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In the Final Office Action mailed March 29, 2006, the Examiner allowed Claims 1-17, 27-39, 43-69 and 94, and rejected Claims 70-89, 91-93 and 95 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Sarfarazi, US 6,488,708. The Examiner also rejected Claim 95 for indefiniteness.

Applicant has cancelled Claims 70-89, 91-93 and 95, leaving only the allowed Claims 1-17, 27-39, 43-69 and 94 pending. However, Applicant respectfully does not concede the correctness of the Examiner's rejections, and Applicant is pursuing claims similar to those currently rejected in a continuation of the present application, filed on the same day as the present Amendment.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. Accordingly, issuance of a Notice of Allowance is most earnestly solicited.

Applicant respectfully traverses each of the Examiner's rejections and each of the Examiner's assertions regarding what the prior art shows or teaches. Although cancellations have been made, no acquiescence or estoppel is or should be implied thereby. Rather, the cancellations are made only to expedite prosecution of the present application, and without prejudice to presentation or assertion, in the future, of claims on the subject matter affected thereby.

The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to all of the rejections in the case and to place the claims in condition for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped

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issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's attorney, Mark J. Kertz at (949) 721-6318 to resolve such issue(s) promptly.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: Apr. 19, 2006

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